In the Claims:

1-8. (canceled)

9. (original) A method for detecting cancer, comprising:

a) providing a sample from a subject suspected of having cancer; and

b) detecting the presence or absence of HIP1 in said sample.

10. (original) The method of Claim 9, wherein the presence of HIP1 in said sample is indicative of cancer in said subject.

11. (original) The method of Claim 9, wherein said cancer is selected from the group consisting of prostate cancer and colon cancer.

12. (original) The method of Claim 9, wherein said sample is a tumor sample.

13. (original) The method of Claim 9, wherein said sample is a tissue sample.

14. (original) The method of Claim 13, wherein said tissue sample is selected from the group consisting of prostate tissue and colon tissue.

15. (original) The method of Claim 9, wherein said sample is selected from the group consisting of serum, plasma, blood, and urine.

16. (currently amended) The method of Claim [[8]]9, wherein said detecting HIP1 comprises detecting the presence of HIP1 mRNA.

17. (original) The method of Claim 16, wherein said detecting the presence of HIP1 mRNA comprises exposing said HIP1 mRNA to a nucleic acid probe complementary to at least a portion of said HIP1 mRNA.

18. (original) The method of Claim 17, wherein said detecting the presence of HIP1 mRNA comprises a detection assay selected from the group consisting of a Northern blot, in situ hybridization, reverse-transcriptase polymerase chain reaction, and microarray analysis.

19-22. (canceled)

23. (original) The method of Claim 9, wherein said method further comprises step c) providing a prognosis to said subject.

24. (original) A method for characterizing tissue in a subject, comprising:

a) providing a tissue sample from a subject, wherein said tissue is selected from the group consisting of colon and prostate tissue; and

b) detecting the presence or absence of HIP1 in said sample, thereby characterizing said tissue sample.

25. (original) The method of Claim 24, wherein said tissue is tumor tissue.

26. (original) The method of Claim 24, wherein said tissue is biopsy tissue.

27. (original) The method of Claim 24, wherein said detecting HIP1 comprises detecting the presence of HIP1 mRNA.

28. (original) The method of Claim 27, wherein said detecting the presence of HIP1 mRNA comprises exposing said HIP1 mRNA to a nucleic acid probe complementary to at least a portion of said HIP1 mRNA.

29. (original) The method of Claim 28, wherein said detecting the presence of HIP1 mRNA comprises a detection assay selected from the group consisting of a Northern blot, in situ hybridization, reverse-transcriptase polymerase chain reaction, and microarray analysis.

30-33. (canceled)

34. (original) The method of Claim 24, wherein said tissue sample is a post-surgical prostate tumor tissue sample and said method further comprises the step of c) identifying a risk of prostate specific antigen failure based on said detecting the presence of HIP1.

35. (original) The method of Claim 24, wherein said tissue sample is prostate tumor tissue and said characterizing comprises identifying a stage of prostate cancer in said prostate tumor tissue.

36. (original) The method of Claim 35, wherein said stage is selected from the group consisting of high-grade prostatic intraepithelial neoplasia, benign prostatic hyperplasia, prostate carcinoma, and metastatic prostate carcinoma.

37. (original) The method of Claim 24, wherein said tissue sample is prostate tumor tissue and said method further comprises the step of c) identifying the risk of said tumor metastasizing based on said detecting the presence of HIP1.

38. (original) The method of Claim 24, wherein said tissue sample is post-surgical prostate tumor tissue and said method further comprises the step of c) identifying the risk of said tumor recurring based on said detecting the presence of HIP1.

39-83. (canceled)